

Appl. No. 10/743,751
Amtd. dated February 7, 2005
Reply to Office action of October 5, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A bridge overhang bracket, comprising:
an elongate top member having inner and outer ends;
an elongate diagonal member having an inner end and an outer end, the outer end of the diagonal member pivotally attached to the outer end of the top member;
upper and lower pivot joints secured to the top member and diagonal member, respectively, adjacent the respective inner ends thereof;
an elongate side member extending between and engaged with the upper and lower pivot joints; and
wherein at least one of the pivot joints comprises an adjustable axial engagement mechanism for adjusting the position along the length of the side member at which the at least one pivot joint engages the side member, the adjustable axial engagement mechanism being adjustable from proximate the inner end of the top member.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) The bracket according to claim 1 wherein each of the adjustable pivot connector upper and lower pivot joints comprises a pivot pin pivotally mounted about a generally horizontal axis in respective ones one of the top or and diagonal members.

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Claim 3. (Currently Amended) The bracket according to claim 2 wherein the each pivot pin of the upper and lower pivot joints comprises has a generally vertical cross aperture for receiving the side member ~~in sliding fit~~.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) The bracket according to claim 3 wherein the side member comprises a threaded rod, and the adjustable axial engagement mechanism comprises a nut thread engaging member engaged with the threaded rod of threaded onto the side member.

Claim 5. (New) The bracket according to claim 1 wherein the adjustable axial engagement mechanism comprises a rotatable element adapted to be gripped proximate the inner end of the top member and rotated to adjust the position along the length of the side member at which at least one of the upper and lower pivot joints engages the side member.

Claim 6. (New) The bracket according to claim 1 wherein the side member comprises a threaded rod.

Claim 7. (New) The bracket according to claim 6 wherein an upper portion of the threaded rod extends vertically above the upper pivot joint.

Claim 8. (New) The bracket according to claim 6 wherein the adjustable axial engagement mechanism comprises a thread engaging member engaged with the threaded rod and the thread engaging member and threaded rod are, and rotatable relative to each other, the threaded rod of the side member.

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Claim 9. (New) The bracket according to claim 8 wherein adjustment of the axial engagement mechanism moves the thread engaging member along the axial length of the threaded rod.

Claim 10. (New) The bracket according to claim 1 wherein the adjustable axial engagement mechanism comprises:

an upper thread engaging element engaged with the side member proximate the upper pivot joint;

a lower thread engaging element engaged with the side member proximate the lower pivot joint; and

wherein the spacing between the lower thread engaging element and the lower pivot joint remains constant during rotation of the upper thread engaging element.

Claim 11. (New) The bracket according to claim 1 wherein adjustment of the axial engagement mechanism moves the side member relative to the diagonal member.

Claim 12. (New) The bracket according to claim 11 wherein the side member comprises a threaded rod, and the axial engagement mechanism comprises a thread engaging element engaged with the threaded rod, and wherein adjustment of the axial engagement mechanism is by relative rotation of the threaded rod and the thread engaging element.

Claim 13. (New) The bracket according to claim 2 wherein each of the side member and the diagonal member comprise generally horizontal bores for receiving a respective one of the pivot pins in sliding fit.

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Claim 14. (New) The bracket according to claim 2 wherein each of the pivot pins comprise a generally vertical cross bore through which the side member extends